

Exodus 18:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Jethro rejoiced for all the goodness which the LORD had done to Israel, whom he had delivered out of the hand of the Egyptians.

Analysis

And Jethro rejoiced for all the goodness which the LORD had done to Israel —Jethro's response to hearing God's works is joy (וַיַּעֲדַד, vayichad, 'rejoiced, was glad'). The phrase 'all the goodness which the LORD had done' (כל-הטובָה אֲשֶׁר-עָשָׂה, kol-hatovah asher-asah YHWH) shows he recognizes Israel's deliverance as divine goodness, not merely political liberation. The specific mention 'whom he had delivered out of the hand of the Egyptians' identifies exodus as gracious rescue. Jethro's joy over Israel's salvation prefigures Gentile rejoicing at gospel news (Luke 10:17, Acts 11:18). His immediate worship response (v.10-12) shows that hearing God's works should lead to praising God. This models proper response: testimonies produce joy that issues in worship.

Historical Context

Jethro's joy represents first recorded instance of a non-Israelite rejoicing at Israel's redemption, previewing the Gentile inclusion theme that runs through Scripture culminating in Revelation 7:9.

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. What does Jethro's joy over Israel's salvation teach about participating in others' spiritual blessings?
2. How does hearing testimonies producing joy and worship model proper response to God's works?

Interlinear Text

שָׁשׁ הַ אָשָׁר בְּטוֹב הַ כָּל עַל יִתְר וְיַעֲקֹב

rejoiced And Jethro for all the goodness had done

H2302 H3503

H5921 H3605

H2896

H834

H6213

מִיד חָצֵיל וְאַשְׁר לִישְׁבָּא לְיַהְׁעַ הַ

which the LORD to Israel whom he had delivered out of the hand

H3068

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H5337

H3027

מִצְרָיִם:

of the Egyptians

H4714

Additional Cross-References

Romans 12:15 (Parallel theme): Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.

1 Corinthians 12:26 (Parallel theme): And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it.